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FREDERICK LOESER & CO.

BROOKLYN ADVERTISEMENTS.

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FREDERICK LOESER & CO.

\$2.98 for Men's \$5.00 Umbrellas.

Just 100 men may share in this exceptional umbrella opportunity to-morrow. The umbrellas are 28-inch, made of fine yarn-dyed taffeta, with cases and tassels, paragon frames, steel rods, very close roll and guaranteed for two years. The handles are fine ivory, buck horn, French horn and imported natural wood, handsomely trimmed, and are alone worth what we ask for umbrellas complete.

Frederick Loeser & Co.

BROOKLYN.

The Easter Heads and Hands.

The Easter Millinery never was so beautiful—its tasteful beauty and becomingness are unknown to those who haven't been in Loeser's, and Brooklyn women have come to know that a Loeser model, be it hat, gown or wrap, settles with the seal of its approval the fashions for the present and immediate future. Come and see the Easter Millinery. As for Gloves, the Loeser Gloves are made by the very geniuses of glove making, and there is everything here to match any shade or any costume.

**Easter Week Preparations Never Equalled.**

Loeser's is now at its best, not only at its best as an interesting and instructive place to visit—but at its best as the most practical place to buy every known Easter want. There's a holiday atmosphere throughout the store and the cheerfulness of Spring that really seems to renew life. READ OUR NEWS COLUMNS OF TO-

DAY, but read between the lines. We have greater and better surprises for you to-morrow than ever before, and yet think of the other days, too—the every days of the week—expect what you may, they will outdo the yesterdays, if you put them to the test.

ONE of the widest uses of this store is its readiness during any emergency—the ability to supply the wants of the procrastinator, and we fear Brooklyn's knowledge of Loeser's readiness has made procrastinators—but that's all right, we are ready for you this week, and better ready than ever. Now is a time to buy to advantage.

Immense Sale of Lace Curtains.

The Lowest Prices in a Decade.

The most important curtain event of the season—advantageous enough to anticipate your autumn needs. You will find this the best collection of popular-priced curtains ever shown at one time. There's quite a history attached to our deal for these curtains, but what of that? The important thing is, you get the entire lot at 1-3 to 1-2 less than regular prices. We have never offered so comprehensive a gathering at such low prices. Here are a few prices. A great number of other equal values in the sale.

White Irish Point curtains, all 3½ yards long—			
Now	Regular value	Now	Regular value
.....\$1.08	.....\$3.25	.....\$4.50	.....\$13.50
.....\$4.00	.....\$12.00	.....\$11.50	.....\$34.50
.....\$7.05	.....\$21.15	.....\$12.50	.....\$37.50
.....\$12.50	.....\$37.50	.....\$22.50	.....\$67.50

Arabian Irish Point curtains—			
Now	Regular value	Now	Regular value
.....\$4.50	.....\$13.50	.....\$5.98	.....\$17.95
.....\$7.50	.....\$22.50	.....\$9.50	.....\$28.50
.....\$11.50	.....\$34.50	.....\$15.50	.....\$46.50
.....\$19.50	.....\$58.50	.....\$23.50	.....\$70.50

Supremacy Silk Sale.

Japanese Corded Wash Silk at 24c. Lowest Price Ever Named.

A lot of 5,000 yards, embracing a large variety of corded stripes in the very best colorings, best quality at the extraordinary price of 24c. yd.

58c. for 85c. Pin Striped Taffetas.

There are 3,000 yards of these popular taffetas, suitable for shirt waist suits; the colorings are the latest.
58c. for 85c. White Washable Habutai.—A splendid quality for dresses; 2,500 yards, 27 inches wide, at 58c. yard.
49c. for 75c. Guaranteed Black Taffeta.—2,000 yards of a very bright, heavy and strong quality, at 49c. yard.

THE SUPPRESSED CONGO BOOK.**SAMPLES OF THE CHARGES OF GROSS CRUELTY MADE IN IT.**

Women as Well as Men Flogged and Worked to Death by Congo Free State Officers—A Butchery of Living Men—Natives Held in Practical Slavery—Villagers Hunted Down and Killed Wantonly.

LONDON, March 25.—At the beginning of this month there was published a book by Capt. Guy Burrows and Edgar Canisius entitled the "Curses of Central Africa." The volume is another addition to the record of the oppression and cruelty which have marked the administration of the Congo Free State, of which Leopold, King of the Belgians, is autocratic sovereign. The authors write with knowledge, for both of them were for some years in the service of the State, leaving it only a couple of years ago.

Before this volume was published the Free State company got hold of some of the proof sheets and applied in England for a legal injunction against its publication. After it had appeared there were immediate rumors that King Leopold had protested to the English Government, while at the same time the Free State company took preliminary steps for a libel action.

Whether the publishers are afraid that the authors have told too much truth for safety, or whether pressure of some other kind has been brought upon them, is not at present known, but the fact remains that when an attempt was made to purchase the book this afternoon at a leading bookseller it was found to have been "withdrawn from sale."

On reading the book one soon sees why King Leopold should object so strenuously to its publication. In the introduction, written by J. G. Leigh, who has arranged the work of the two amateur authors for publication, we are told that much of their story has been omitted as being too horrible for publication. What has been printed is, however, quite enough to make the readers realize the cruelties practiced day by day by the Belgian officials in administering a huge territory for the sole purpose of making money out of the wretched natives.

Capt. Burrows, the chief of the two authors, was an officer in the Seventh Fusiliers who resigned his commission to take service with the Congo Free State company, to which he had been recommended

by Henry M. Stanley. Leaving, for the time, that side of the book in which he sketches the history of the Congo State and describes the system of government pursued by its agents in direct violation of the solemn pledges given to Europe when the State was created, there will be given here some of the stories of cruelty which are to be found in nearly every chapter. It is such stories as these that appeal most forcibly to the public mind, and that may possibly lead to a stirring of public opinion that will result in reform.

Here is a story that comes in the first few pages of the book. At a post called Djabbir eleven women prisoners were made to work in chains, carrying sand and earth a distance of some 250 yards from a garden where the commandant was making to the river bank.

The women were not allowed to walk, but had to do everything running, native soldiers with sticks keeping them up to their work. One woman gave birth to a child, but she had to go on working just the same. Naturally, she and the other ten soon died.

The very next story tells how a young girl in the service of a Belgian sergeant was flogged by his orders in public at Verre. When her flesh had been cut to ribbons she was tied to a flagpole in the centre of the station. The sergeant then smeared portions of her body with native honey, and she was left to the flies and the burning sun for the rest of the day.

Freed from her bonds on the following day the wretched girl died.

A Belgian doctor, who had just arrived at the post, saw her when at the point of death and beyond all medical aid, but made no report to the authorities.

From what one reads elsewhere in the book it would seem that a report would have been useless. Such stories of these are given as examples of every day cruelty to individuals.

"Instances without number," we are told, "might be given of the cruelties practised or permitted by the notorious Major Lothaire." Here is one.

In October, 1893, Lothaire, then commanding an expedition against the revolted Babatela, detained at Luena 400 men, women and children who came into place themselves under his protection. Of these four chiefs and twenty-six men were selected and killed.

Two of the chiefs, as shown in a photograph reproduced in the book, "were tortured in a fashion so diabolically cruel that it is scarcely possible to believe that it was the outcome of a white man's brain. To a cross pole, run along three upright posts

put in the ground, the wretched victims were suspended by cords attached to their neck, middle and feet.

"A doctor, in the presence of Lothaire and the other Europeans accompanying the expedition, then proceeded to remove the scalps of the tortured men. His black assistant, also, by order of the doctor, amused the white spectators by sawing through the shinbones and cutting off the victims' noses and ears. These proceedings lasted about one hour, when the wretched men were cut down and thrown into the bush."

Another photograph reproduced in the book shows two prisoners each with the leg of a human corpse hung around his neck. This was done by order of a Belgian officer, and the men were made to stand in the centre of the station exposed to the fierce rays of the sun, without food or water.

In 1898, when on his way up country, Capt. Burrows reached a place called Equateur. Here are extensive coffee plantations, which are worked in the service of the State. The workers employed on them are, as is the case with the natives who collect the rubber, practically slaves. In fact, the author throughout makes it plain that the Free State reduces all the natives to a condition of absolute slavery in the vast districts where it is paramount.

"At Equateur," says Capt. Burrows, "most of the workpeople are women, and nearly all of them have been taken prisoners in war at one time or another—mostly, I should think, in the punitive raids, which are small expeditions sent out to destroy a village when its chief has not sent in enough rubber or ivory to satisfy his taskmaster."

"When these expeditions go out to punish the refractory native their method is to surround the village, attack it, shoot the men and such of the women who try to escape, and then take the rest prisoners and send them down to the various stations. The village is then wiped out, and all trace of it is soon lost in a tangle of tropical vegetation. The able-bodied prisoners become practically slaves on the coffee plantations under the State officials."

When at an important station called N'Dobo, Capt. Burrows saw the system of collecting rubber. In the immediate vicinity of N'Dobo there are about a dozen villages. Three-fourths of the male villagers are tagged, i. e. have zinc disks, with a number and a name stamped on them, hung around their necks—a corresponding number being entered against each name in the books of the officials.

"Those tagged," says Capt. Burrows, "at once become mere slaves to the company, for rubber making occupies all their time, the victim having to search far and wide for the giant vines from which the sap is extracted."

"Each village is in charge of a capita or headman belonging to a different tribe. Every fifteen days the natives are mustered at N'Dobo in charge of their capita, who range them according to their villages. Each native carries a small basket supposed to be full of the rubber he has collected during the fortnight."

"The agent examines every man's basket, comparing the man's name and number with the name and number in his book. "Those natives who had brought in quantities which the agent deemed insufficient were ordered to one side, and as soon as the entire village had been thus inspected, those delinquents were seized by some of the 'soldiers' attached to the post, thrown upon the ground and soundly flogged."

"Some received twenty lashes, others fifty, but I have occasionally seen even 100 lashes administered, the instrument used being the 'chicotte,' a heavy whip of hippopotamus hide. This proceeding was repeated until all the villages had been dealt with."

"Then the natives started off for their jungle homes, usually at a sharp trot, apparently only too glad to escape with life from a place which, no doubt, they looked upon much as the Belgians' forefathers regarded the torture chambers to which they were oftentimes led by their Spanish masters. They, of course, carried with them their baskets and their *mitakes*, which they did not want, but were forced to accept."

"The *mitakes* are pieces of brass wire about six inches long, the estimated value of which N'Dobo was about a halfpenny. With these, to them, apparently useless pieces of wire the natives were paid for their rubber at a rate of rather less than one penny a pound, assuming the six inches of wire to be worth a halfpenny."

An hour's march from N'Dobo was the village of a petty chief named Ban, whose people were compelled to render a variety of services to the State, as are all villages within reach of a post. Though Ban's village contained fewer than 100 male adults, it was obliged to furnish, in addition to rubber, poles and thatch and other building material, labor for the post, and carriers for the transport service to the interior. The women were compelled to bring food for sale at the station market, which was usually stolen by the mob of soldiers and other black parasites who inhabit the stations."

Ban and his people were naturally un-

Carpets

At Your

COMMAND.**A VICTORY ORGANIZED SALE.**

This sale is a success before it opens. To offer such carpets at such prices, in the face of an advancing market, is a triumph in merchandising, and is certain to stir the city.

You must be concerned in these carpets that will best suit your taste and needs, and at the smallest prices it is safe to pay for them.

Really, this is the best carpet opportunity ever offered during the season. It will pay you to analyze every item in this sale and anticipate the future, aside from present wants, for carpets will be higher, not lower.

You can make your selections now, and we will make deliveries whenever you wish.

These goods are from one of the largest mills in the country, whose products have for years been famous for their durability. A wide variety of patterns is shown, sufficient to please the most fastidious.

45c., Worth 65c. and 75c. Yard.

Extra Super Ingrain Carpets, yard wide and reversible, all wool and wool filled, that are worth 65c. and 75c. yd., at 45c. yd.

39c., Worth 75c. Yard.

Tapestry Brussels in mottled effects. A very durable low price carpet, worth 75c. yd., at 39c. yd.

67c., Worth 90c. Yard.

Tapestry Brussels, the best 10 wire quality of a mill that makes the best wearing carpets in the market, worth 90c. yd., at 67c. yd.

\$1.12 1-2, Worth \$1.50 Yard.

Axminster Carpets—The best wearing Axminster Carpets in market, in beautiful patterns and the newest colorings, worth \$1.50 yd., at \$1.12½ yd.

\$1.17 1-2, Worth \$1.50 Yard.

Extra Quality Wilton Velvets—Carpets that are famous for their ability to stand hard usage, especially adapted for halls and stairs, will look and wear almost as well as a Royal Wilton, worth \$1.50 yd., at \$1.17½ yd.

94c., Worth \$1.35 Yard.

Body Brussels—Splendid goods and full standard 5-frame quality, no better made, worth \$1.35 yd., at 94c. yd.

Matting.

Our Matting display is much the finest we have ever shown. All that is most wanted in weave and color is now here in wide variety, at prices much less than you usually pay. To-morrow we offer the following by the roll of 40 yds. at prices ½ less than the usual yard prices:

Regular 15c. Yd. at 11c. Yd.—Fancy Seamless China Matting.
Regular 25c. Yd. at 15c. Yd.—Extra Heavy Seamless China Matting.

Regular 30c. Yd. at 17c. Yd.—Fancy Japanese Warp cotton matting in handsome damask patterns.

Regular 30c. Yd. at 19c. Yd.—Reversible China matting, in a wide range of patterns; an extra heavy quality.

Regular 30c. Yd. at 19c. Yd.—Fancy inlaid Japanese matting, in choice patterns.

Regular 40c. Yd. at 27c. Yd.—Extra fine, long straw inlaid matting; the choicest goods in the market.

**Men's Spring Clothing.**

Extraordinary Offer. Exactly Half. \$12.50 for Regular \$25.00 Suits.

Another move to widen the influence and extend the acquaintance of our men's clothing store. There are just two hundred and fifty of these new spring suits, and every one of them a genuine \$25.00 value.

They are made in the 3 and 4 button Single Breasted Sack styles. Hand workmanship throughout. TAILORED TO PERFECTION. They will compare with the finest custom garments made to-day.

The materials are IMPORTED CHEVIOTS and finest DOMESTIC FANCY WORSTEDS. The patterns and colorings are the newest and best of this season's production; graceful fitting garments, properly balanced, snugly fitting collar, broad shoulders. They will hold their shape for all time. Sizes 34 to 40. Not sent C. O. D.

ARE FARM PROFITS TOO GREAT?**QUESTIONS SUGGESTED BY A NEBRASKA PROFESSOR.**

Figures to Show That No Trust Pays Such Dividends as the Farm on the Capital Invested—Nebraska's Get-Rich-Quick Concerns—Value of Her Crops.

LINCOLN, Neb., April 4.—Are the farmers of the West exacting too great a profit upon their investment? Ought they not to be content with lower prices, and should not the action of the Federal authorities be invoked, as it is against the steel, oil and sugar producers, to prevent foodstuffs producers from growing suddenly and enormously rich at the expense of the great common people?

These questions are presented in a little pamphlet prepared by Prof. Davidson of the social economy department of the State University. Not, it is true, in just those words, but the evident aim of the compilation Mr. Davidson has made is to show that not even the Tobacco or the Steel Trust is reaping as big dividends from its investments as the farmers of the State of Nebraska.

The census report shows that in 1900 there were in Nebraska 121,525 farms with an average value of \$4,753, and a total value of \$557,008,325. Mr. Davidson has secured reports from men in every county who have exceptional opportunities to find out the movements in the values of real estate, and these show an average increase of 23 per cent. over the 1900 estimate. Added to the census figures this gives a total value of \$722,010,409.

Figures gleaned from the reports of the Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture show that up to 1900 the average value of the commodities produced on Nebraska farms was not far from \$140,000,000. Of this sum nearly \$75,000,000 was represented by the live stock shipped and slaughtered, while \$15,000,000 represented the average value of the grain crops.

Poultry was represented by \$3,000,000 more, butter by \$2,000,000, eggs by \$2,000,000, hides and pelts by \$3,000,000. Various other products of the farm, garden, orchard and dairy make up the remainder of the grand total.

These sums, it should be remembered, represented only the surplus of the farmer's products, that is, over and above what

he found necessary to maintain himself and family. From this should be deducted the cost of agricultural implements and other incidental expenses. This gives him something like 15 per cent. interest on his investment.

In view of the fact that last year the value of farm products, exclusive of live stock, put on the market was \$150,000,000, his profit on the investment could not have been less than 25 per cent. Few industrial enterprises, even conceding that many of them are overcapitalized, can make such a showing as this.

The value of live stock on the ranges before the marketing in 1902 was \$180,000,000. Agricultural implements were worth \$31,000,000. The amount of money on deposit in the national and State banks is estimated at not less than \$60,000,000.

This great rise to wealth of the farmers in a few decades reads almost like a fairy story. In the beginning of her agricultural development it was thought the State could produce corn only. In the last few years Nebraska farmers have turned their attention to raising wheat and alfalfa as well as corn, and last year the State produced almost 45,000,000 bushels of winter wheat and 8,000,000 bushels of spring wheat.

The corn crop last year was 275,000,000 bushels, that of oats 32,000,000, rye 7,000,000 and barley 2,000,000. There were 11,192 acres of sugar beets, averaging not less than ten tons to the acre.

The hay crop was tremendous. No accurate statistics can be obtained from the State as a whole, but in twenty-seven counties there were produced 37,000 tons of clover, 74,000 tons of timothy, 86,000 tons of wild hay and 247,000 tons of alfalfa.

The raising of alfalfa promises much for the future of the State. Ten years ago it could scarcely be said to exist in Nebraska.

Last year there were over a million thousand acres planted, much of it more preliminary work. In some parts of the State this crop annually produces more than the value of the land. It will be but a few years until a million acres are under cultivation.

Where the farmer has the advantage of the industrial enterprise is that there is no impairment of the capital invested. Instead, the production of large crops means added value to the land.

The raising of alfalfa, for instance, means that every county will engage in the raising of live stock. The existence of live stock of every farm means that the fertility of the soil will be maintained, that the farmers instead of having to pay large sums for fertilizers will keep the soil capable of producing as abundantly as it does to-day.